

Serial No. 10/574,723

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Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

--The invention relates to a method and a control device for operating a mill train for metal strip, which comprises at least one roll stand, the intrinsic flatness of the metal strip being determined at the discharge point of the mill train. In order to ensure in a reliable and sufficiently accurate manner that a required visible flatness of the rolled metal strip is kept within predefined limits, the waviness ~~bulging~~-behavior of the metal strip is measured at the discharge point of the mill train and is translated into the intrinsic flatness of thermal strip by means of a strip shape ~~bulging~~-model. The visible flatness can thus be better controlled ~~regulated online in real-time~~ along the entire mill train by using the strip shape ~~bulging~~-model.--